



The old idea that the barasingha all moved westwards towards the Kishenganga in March or April, and returned eastwards in September is no longer tenable.

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Major.

NO. X.—LIST OF CETACEANS TAKEN IN TRAVANCORE FROM 1902 TO 1925

Students of Indian Cetaceans were for a long time indebted to the late Mr. Harold Ferguson, F.L.S., F.Z.S., etc., the Scientific Director, Museum and Public Gardens, Trivandrum, for the energetic work done in adding to our knowledge of hitherto unobserved forms from the Travancore sea-board. During his connection of 24 years with the Museum, he had contributed a series of articles, based on personal observations, on birds and their nidification, reptiles, and amphibians, and their metamorphoses and also butterflies, etc. As however he retired in 1904 owing to ill-health and was unable to work out the remaining sections of the animal kingdom, so far as they have been represented in the Museum, it is hoped that the present paper on the Travancore cetaceans, may be regarded as a further contribution to the Journal of the Bombay Natural History Society.

Order—CETACEA

Suborder—MYSTACOCÆTI

Family—*Balænidæ* (Fin-whales)

1. *Balænoptera indica*. The great Indian Fin-whale. This cetacean was stranded in 1901 in an advanced state of decomposition at Rajakamangalum, 5 miles south of the Muttum lighthouse, on the coast-line between Colachel and Cape Comorin. It was buried on the beach by order of the Travancore Government and was exhumed in March 1904, with the result, that the skull

and the mandibles, forty-four vertebræ and six ribs (one of which was 6 feet long), the humerus, the ulna and radius with fragments of the metacarpal and chevron bones, were obtained. For want of exhibition space in the Museum, the bones were not set up, though the two halves of the lower jaw, 18 feet 3 inches each, have been displayed, mounted side by side, on the western portico of the Museum building.

According to Blanford's Mammalia (F. B. I. series) the lower jaw of a specimen said to be 84 feet long measured nearly 21 feet.

Suborder—ODONTOCÆTI

Family—*Delphinidae* (Toothed Whales)

2. *Tursiops catalanta* (Syn. *T. fergusonii*) The Australian Bottle-Nose. February 1902. Length 8 feet 1 inch.

Dr. Blanford describes only one species of *Tursiops*, namely *T. tursio*, from which the present animal differs in the widely separated pterygoids and the dentition, which is $\frac{2}{3}$ instead of $\frac{2}{2}$. It was described by Dr. Gray on the evidence of two skulls obtained from the north-west coast of Australia by Mr. Y. Macgillivray, and has been found to be not uncommon along the Trivandrum coast.

3. *Tursiops gilli*.

Rare, a solitary specimen was obtained in 1904. Being a type specimen, it was made over to the S. Kensington Museum with a skeleton and colour sketches taken in the flesh. It is said to be found on the Pacific coast of North America and described on the evidence of the skull, and only known in the flesh by 'momentary observations taken by Scammar.'

4. *Tursiops dawsoni*. Dawson's Dolphin.—two specimens were purchased in February 1908. They were 9 feet and 9 feet 4 inches respectively, and differed from all other species of *Tursiops*, in the dentition and the number and characters of the ribs.

5. *Neomeris phocaenoides*. The Little Indian Porpoise—Fairly common during certain seasons of the year at Trivandrum and the northern parts.

Several specimens of the Little Indian Porpoise were purchased in 1908 for comparative study. Of these, one obtained in June, while agreeing with the typical Indian Porpoise (*Neomeris phocaenoides*) in many respects, differed in the purplish red patches on the lips and throat which were replaced by pale grey of corresponding size and shape and also in the dental and vertebral formulæ which are as follows:—

Neomeris phocaenoides :

Teeth $\frac{1}{3}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ = 36 and 36

Vertebræ. C. 7; D. 13; L. 13; C. 26 = 59.

The present specimen :

Teeth $\frac{2}{3}$ and $\frac{3}{8}$ = 39 and 41.

Vertebræ. C. 7; D. 14; L. 12; C. 26 = 59.

Of the 14 pairs of ribs 7 are double headed.

As nothing of decisive importance could be inferred in these respects with regard to the new specimen, Mr. Lydekker has preferred to leave it unnamed for the present.

6. *Delphinus delphis*. The common Dolphin. Not uncommon. It is said to have been recorded for the first time from the Madras coast.

7. *Sotalia lentiginosa* (Syn. *Sotalia fergusonii*). The speckled Dolphin.

An immature animal was obtained in 1903 and though it resembled *Sotalia lentiginosa* in many respects, the absence of pear-shaped flecks on the body and certain other characteristics, led Mr. Lydekker of the British Museum to provisionally call it *S. fergusonii*; but when in August 1908 another animal measuring 7 feet 2 inches was also sent, he arrived at the conclusion that this was the adult of what he once described as *Sotalia fergusonii*.

8. *Pseudorca crassidens*. The False Killer. Length 16 feet 10 inches, stranded on the Trivandrum beach in February 1902. Subsequently immature ones measuring 11 feet 10 inches and 10 feet 9½ inches, respectively at Trivandrum, and adults at Rajakamangalum and Tengapatam, were also recorded. It is said to be described by Owen, on the evidence of a skeleton, found on the Lincolnshire fens.

Family—PHYSETERIDÆ

9. *Kogia breviceps*. The small Sperm-whale.

When I was at Trivandrum in February last I had occasion to observe this specimen, a gravid female of about 10 feet in length; there was another one of the same species which was immature. It is described in Blanford's Fauna of British India, Mammalia, on the evidence of an immature female, captured at Vizagapatam; it is recorded for the first time from the Trivandrum sea-coast.

31st March, 1925

R. SHUNKARA NARAYAN PILLAY,

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No. XI.—A LIST OF BIRDS OBSERVED IN THE BHELING VALLEY,
TEHRI GARHWAL, APRIL 1, 1926 TO MAY 25, 1926, FROM
2,000 FEET TO 13,000 FEET

6. Himalayan Jungle-Crow (*Corvus coronoides intermedius*).
23. Western Yellow-billed Blue Magpie (*Urocissa flavirostris cucullata*).
26. Indian Tree-Pie (*Dendrocitta rufa rufa*).
28. Himalayan Tree-Pie (*Dendrocitta sinensis himalayensis*).
35. Black-throated Jay (*Garrulus lanceolatus*).
38. Himalayan Jay (*Garrulus bispecularis bispecularis*).
43. Himalayan Nutcracker (*Nucifraga caryocatactes hemispila*), not seen below 9,000 ft.
45. Red-billed Chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) observed on April 16, at 8,000 ft.
51. Kashmir Grey Tit (*Parus major kashmiriensis*).
57. Green-backed Tit (*Parus monticolus*).
61. Red-headed Tit (*Aegithaliscus concinna iredalei*).
82. Simla Black-Tit (*Lophophanes rufonuchalis rufonuchalis*).
114. Himalayan White-crested Laughing-Thrush (*Garrulax leucolophus leucolophus*).
- White-throated Laughing-Thrush (*Garrulax albogularis whistleri*).
927. Himalayan Whistling-Thrush (*Myiophoneus horstfieldi temminckii*).
295. Black-headed Sibia (*Lioptila capistrata capistrata*).
385. Punjab Red-vented Bulbul (*Molpastes haemorrhous intermedius*).
386. White-cheeked Bulbul (*Molpastes leucogenys*).
425. Cinnamon-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta castaneiventris cinnamomiventris*).
439. Himalayan Black Drongo (*Dicrurus macrocercus albirictus*).
632. Bay-backed Shrike (*Lanius vittatus*).
653. Indian Scarlet Minivet (*Pericrocotus speciosus speciosus*).
689. Indian Oriole (*Oriolus oriolus kundoo*).
727. Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis tristis*).
784. Indian Paradise Flycatcher (*Terpsephone paradisi paradisi*).
799. Baker's White-throated Fantail Flycatcher (*Rhipidura albicollis stanleyi*).
803. Northern Indian Pied Bush-Chat (*Saxicola caprata bicolor*).
841. Western Indian Redstart (*Phenicurus ochrurus phenicuroides*).
916. Himalayan Missel Thrush (*Turdus viscivorus bonapartei*). Young had left the nest on May 21 at 6,500 ft.
930. Large Brown Thrush (*Zoothera monticola*).
935. Brown Dipper (*Cinclus pallasi tenuirostris*) observed right up to the glacier.
1072. Crested Bunting (*Melophus melanicterus*).
1091. Hodgson's Striated Swallow (*Hirundo daurica nepalensis*). Building nest under overhanging rock at 4,000 ft. on May 23.
1101. Grey Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea melanope*).
1199. Purple Sunbird (*Cyrtostomus asiaticus asiaticus*).
1258. Scaly-bellied Green Woodpecker (*Picus squamatus squamatus*).
1277. Western Himalayan Pied Woodpecker (*Dryobates himalayensis*).
1283. Fulvous-breasted Pied Woodpecker (*Dryobates macei macei*) observed at 6,500 ft.
1335. Great Himalayan Barbet (*Megalæma virens marshallorum*).